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the original work. However a thorough examination of the decisions rendered in the ten years since the publication of the first edition has been made, and a full citation of these is now included, together with certain additions to and modifications of the text.

Mr. Clark in treating with special care the doctrines in regard to corporations *de facto*, estoppel to deny corporate existence, subscriptions to stock prior to incorporation and watered stock, and the now exploded but still important trust fund theory, has shown a comprehension of the topics of unusual difficulty, which has given to his treatise great practical value.

As a discussion of the principles applicable to corporations generally the book has proved its merit. More than this could not be expected in a volume of its restricted limits.

H. W. B.

SELECT ESSAYS IN ANGLO-AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY. By Various Authors; Compiled and Edited by a Committee of The Association of American Law Schools. In three volumes. Volume I. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1907. Pp. x, 847.

This collection of essays on topics in Anglo-American Legal History is being made under the supervision of the Association of American Law Schools, and represents the outgrowth of a movement now of several years standing within that body. It was believed that a great deal of valuable work has been done in the effort to construct various parts of our legal history, but that the results of this labor were so scattered and difficult of access as to make them not easily available to the student. To remedy this, it was proposed to collect from all sources the best discussions extant, and reprint them in a form suitable for the profession. The committee appointed to take the matter under consideration reported in favor thereof, and the present volume constitutes the first fruits of their labor. A second volume is promised for 1908 and a third for 1909.

The general purpose of the editors has been to supplement the great treatise of Sir Frederick Pollock and Professor Maitland on the History of English Law. The collection has been made with the utmost care, lists of articles being made, considered, reconsidered, submitted to experts, and finally being reduced to one hundred and fifty titles as set forth in the Reports of the American Bar Association for 1906 (Vol. II, pp. 191, ff). It is proposed to reduce this number still further so that the essays finally published will probably not exceed seventy-five.

A cursory examination of this first volume will convince the reader of the critical judgment that has been exercised in the selection of the essays published, and such names as Maitland, Pollock, Jenks, Stubbs, Bryce, Beale and others guarantee the value of the publication, were any guarantee needed.

There are twenty-one essays included in this volume grouped together under the following historical subdivisions: Before the Norman Conquest; From the Norman Conquest to the Eighteenth Century; The American Colonial Period; Expansion and Reform of the Law in the Nineteenth Century, and Bench and Bar from Norman Times to the Nineteenth Century.

It is, of course, impossible for us to consider these essays with any hope of adequate criticism. All have appeared before, scattered principally through the pages of various legal periodicals. With many of them the intelligent part of the profession is already familiar. It is gratifying to find them now offered in a form making them available as a part of a lawyer's library, as well as making possible their use in the various law schools of the country in connection with the constantly increasing regard for the historical development of various branches of the law.

The committee in charge of the publication is composed of Prof. Ernst Freund, of the University of Chicago; Prof. William E. Mikell, of the University of Pennsylvania; and Prof. John H. Wigmore, of Northeastern University.

H. W. B.

THE PREPARATION AND CONTEST OF WILLS, with Plans of and Extracts from Important Wills. By DANIEL S. REMSEN, of the New York Bar. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Company. 1907. Pp. xli, 839.

The character of this book is well explained by its author in his preface, where he states his intention to be to adopt the *ante mortem* rather than the *post mortem* point of view. Its purpose is to equip the practitioner to advise a client fully and intelligently as to the various modes of disposition of his property open to him, and to enable the attorney, having received instructions, to draw the will with precision and accuracy. It is not intended as an authority upon the interpretation of the intricacies of wills of doubtful meaning, and does not pretend to compete with such a treatise as Jarman's either in its scope or in its profound scholarship. In its own field it is a book which is without doubt of practical value in connection with the drawing of wills.

It is to be commended to the younger members of the bar, not on account of its being elementary in character, but because it is especially helpful to those members of the pro-